

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 OFA-01 CG-00 DLOS-03

DOT-00 EB-07 INT-05 OES-03 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 TRSE-00 /105 W

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R 270745Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0393

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN NY

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

ROME FOR FODAG

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, BA, KU, SA, MU, TC, QA, IR, IZ

SUBJ: PARTICIPANTS AT REGIONAL FISHING CONFERENCE REACH AGREEMENT
ON NAME OF GULF

1. ONE OF MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECTS OF REGIONAL FISHING CON-
FERENCE HELD IN DOHA APRIL 8-10 WAS ABILITY OF ARABS AND
IRANIANS TO AVOID CONFLICT OVER NAME OF GULF. CONFERENCE
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INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM BAHRAIN, KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA,

OMAN, IRAN, IRAQ, UAE AND QATAR AND CONCLUDED WITH AGREEMENT TO CONDUCT REGIONAL FISHING SURVEY UNDER UNDP/FAO GUIDANCE. ACCORDING TO MEMBER OF QATARI DELEGATION, OPENING SPEECH BY GOQ REP CAREFULLY REFERRED TO PERSIAN GULF SIMPLY AS "GULF". DELEGATE SAID IRANIANS MENTIONED "PERSIAN GULF" IN THEIR PRESENTATION WHICH LED TO COMMENTS ABOUT "ARABIAN GULF" IN NEXT ARAB DELIVERY AND CREATED SOME TENSION. A SHOWDOWN WAS AVOIDED, HOWEVER, AND IN GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDED AMICABLY. WHEN SOMETHING MORE SPECIFIC THAN "GULF" WAS FOUND TO BE NECESSARY, DELEGATES ADOPTED FOLLOWING WORDY DESCRIPTION: "THAT BODY OF WATER LYING BETWEEN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA ON THE WEST AND IRAN ON THE EAST". QATARI DELEGATE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT UN OFFICIALS HAD SPENT ALMOST A YEAR NEGOTIATING WITH BOTH SIDES TO WORK OUT AGREEMENT ON NAME THAT WOULD ALLOW CONFERENCE TO PROCEED.

2. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT ARABS AND IRANIANS HAVE REACHED ANY SORT OF EFFECTIVE COMPROMISE ON THIS SENSITIVE ISSUE. ALTHOUGH AGREEMENT IS PRACTICAL ONE AIMED AT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL SURVEY AND PROBABLY DOES NOT INDICATE ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN VIEWS ON EITHER ARAB OR IRANIAN SIDE, IT IS NONETHELESS MAJOR STEP TOWARD REGIONAL COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING. IF UN EFFORTS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR AGREEMENT, ORGANIZATION SHOULD RECEIVE FULL CREDIT FOR IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGH.
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